President.—That is not a supplementary question.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—When two answers conflict each other we have to ask such questions.

President.—You cannot do that. The rules do not permit.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Am I to understand that by the expression 'The Government are doing everything in their power' they meant that what the Government can do is very little?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Exactly. Otherwise you would all have been in a much happier condition.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know whether the previous answer was correct or not?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—That answer was quite correct in its context and meaning. The present is also correct.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Can I get from the Government a catalogue of "Everything in their power" that they did for the welfare of the people?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The administration of the State testifies to the statement that they are doing everything in their power to advance the material welfare of the people.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Am I to take it that they are not in a position to say anything definite?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not think this question requires any answer.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Was not this answer given by the Medical Member?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Have medical men anything to do with economic matters?

President.—We will pass on to the next question.

Rate of consumption of a representative Cochinite.

233. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—With reference to Question No. 35, dated 31st July 1933, regarding the rate of consumption of a representative Cochinite, will the Government show where the question is not clear; and

why no requisition was made earlier to the Member to make the proposition clearer; and

also give the information in case the question is now clear?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The terms "rate of consumption" and "representative Cochinite" are not clear.

It is not the practice to refer back questions to the Members for making the meaning clearer.

The question is not clear yet.

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Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Where is the unintelligibility and mysteriousness of words like 'rate of consumption' and 'representative Cochinite'?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—If we knew that, we could have understood the question.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is not the Government aware that by 'rate of consumption' it means what one drinks, what one eats and what one clothes.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Then it would have been a different question.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Then what did the Government understand by 'rate of consumption'?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—It may mean cellular decomposition. We knew that the Member would not have meant it and so we said that the question is unintelligible.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—If by 'representative Cochinite' it is meant a Cochinite on the streets what would have been the answer?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—If that was meant by a "representative Cochinite" then the question would have been different and it would have been intelligible.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is the Diwan Peishkar a representative Cochinite?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—It is a matter of opinion. I leave it to you to judge.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—If such unintelligible questions are referred back to the Hon'ble Members, would it not make the work here easier?

President.—That is not a supplementary question.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Is there any provision by which a question can be referred back to the Member?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—No provision is found either in the Rules or in the Standing Orders.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Let the Secretary answer.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I also know the rules.

Mr. C. A Ouseph.—Is there not a provision for referring questions back?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Not for questions which are already admitted.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know whether it was intelligible to the President when it was admitted?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—If the rules are not indicated it will be admitted even if it is not clear and then we will say it is not clear.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Suppose we put some zeroes there. Will it be admitted?

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Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—It may be admitted. But we will print those zeroes there and say it is unintelligible.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—If a question is admitted that means it was intelligible. Will that position be admitted?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The question of admission is for the President. When we find it is unintelligible we will say it is not clear.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—If a question does not offend any of the rules it will be admitted. The only test applied is whether the question offends any of the rules.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Is there any rule that the question could be made intelligible?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—There is no rule.

Half-fee concession to backward communities.

234. **Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.**—With reference to one of my previous questions regarding certificates for half-fee concession to members of an educationally backward community, will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the present clamour for a general reduction of tuition fee irrespective of the community to which students belong?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—No, but Government have received a resolution passed at a public meeting requesting among others for a remission in school fees as a temporary measure.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Have they any definite information about the financial condition of any in that group?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—With regard to three of those I remember. With regard to the first two the report from the Deputy Tahsildar said that the parent was worth about a lakh of rupees and with regard to the other he has simply said 'he is also rich'.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Where was the occasion for this enquiry being made by the Revenue Officers?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—When certain petitions were received that these concessions were going to be given to the rich I forwarded them to the Revenue authorities for enquiry.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Petitions from whom, may I know?

President.—The question was put yesterday and it was decided that names of people should not creep in.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—About the searching enquiry did not the Hon'ble Member for Education promise to place all those papers on the table yesterday?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Yes. I said that some of these papers are in the hands of the Head Masters who have to grant poverty certificates. So I have to get them from the Head Masters before it can be placed.

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